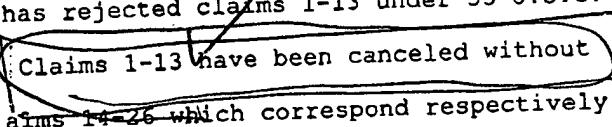


REMARKS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The Examiner has objected to the Declaration. In a telephone conference between Attorney Bill Collard and the Examiner's Supervisor, Examiner Lavinder, on October 31, 2002, Examiner Lavinder indicated that a newly executed declaration could be filed after the filing of this amendment. Therefore, a newly executed declaration shall be submitted at a later date but during the pendency of this application.

The Examiner has objected to the Abstract. The former abstract has been canceled and a new abstract has been submitted and is enclosed as an attachment.

  
The Examiner has rejected claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph.  Claims 1-13 have been canceled without prejudice. New claims 14-26 which correspond respectively to claims 1-13 have been inserted therefor.

The applicant believes that these new claims 14-26 have been

written to overcome the objections and rejections of the examiner.  
The Examiner has stated that claims 1-13 have been indicated as  
allowable if rewritten to overcome these objections.

✓Claims 1-13 have been canceled without prejudice. New claims  
14-26 have been added. The applicant believes that the remaining  
claims are written to overcome the rejections of the Examiner.  
Accordingly, the applicant respectfully requests early allowance of  
the remaining claims.

Respectfully submitted,  
ANTONIO BRANCO ET AL - 1

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WCC/mh

Enclosure: Abstract of Disclosure

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being Faxed to  
Examiner Butler at (703) 305-7687 on October 31, 2002

*William C. Collard*  
William Collard

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